

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1. A method for enabling error-free delivery of data  
2 between a plurality of peer entities, comprising the steps of:  
3           a transmitting peer entity sending a polling request to a  
4 receiving peer entity, said polling request requesting a status  
5 report; and  
6           responsive to said polling request, said receiving peer  
7 entity sending said status report to said transmitting peer  
8 entity.
- 9           2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
10 entity sends said polling request when a last PDU in a  
11 transmission buffer is transmitted.
- 12           3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
13 entity sends said polling request when a status report has not  
14 been received by said transmitting peer entity and a polling  
15 timer has timed out.

1           4.    The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
2           entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
3           entity has transmitted a predefined number of PDUs.

4           5.    The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
5           entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
6           entity has transmitted a predefined number of SDUs.

7           6.    The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
8           entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
9           entity has transmitted during a predefined portion of a  
10          transmitting window.

11          7.    The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
12          entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
13          entity has transmitted during a predefined period of time.

1           8.    The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
2           entity defers sending said polling request for a predefined  
3           period of time.

4           9.    The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
5           entity adjusts a transmission window parameter responsive to  
6           receiving said status report.

7           10.   The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
8           entity retransmits at least one PDU responsive to receiving said  
9           status report.

10           11.   The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitting peer  
11           entity retransmits at least one PDU responsive to receiving said  
12           status report, if said status report is plausible.

13           12.   The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
14           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer

1 entity if an estimated PDU counter is not counting, said  
2 receiving peer entity not sending said status report to said  
3 transmitting peer entity if said estimated PDU counter is  
4 counting.

5 13. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
6 entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
7 entity if said receiving peer entity detects at least one  
8 missing or incorrectly received PDU.

9 14. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
10 entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
11 entity when a predefined number of PDUs is received.

12 15. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
13 entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
14 entity when a predefined number of SDUs is received.

1           16. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
2           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
3           entity responsive to receipt of a poll.

4           17. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
5           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
6           entity when the transmitting peer entity has transmitted during  
7           a predefined portion of a transmitting window.

8           18. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
9           entity sends said status report during a predefined period of  
10          time.

11          19. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving peer  
12          entity defers sending said status report for a predefined period  
13          of time.

1           20. A system for enabling error-free delivery of data  
2 between a plurality of peer entities, comprising:  
3           a transmitting peer entity;  
4           a receiving peer entity; and  
5           a communication link between said transmitting peer entity  
6 and said receiving peer entity for communicating data  
7 therebetween, said transmitting peer entity including means for  
8 sending a polling request to said receiving peer entity, said  
9 polling request requesting a status report; and  
10           said receiving peer entity including means for sending said  
11 status report to said transmitting peer entity responsive to  
12 said polling request.

13           21. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
14 entity sends said polling request when a last PDU in a  
15 transmission buffer is transmitted.

1           22. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
2           entity sends said polling request when a status report has not  
3           been received by said transmitting peer entity and a polling  
4           timer has timed out.

5           23. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
6           entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
7           entity has transmitted a predefined number of PDUs.

8           24. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
9           entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
10          entity has transmitted a predefined number of SDUs.

11          25. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
12          entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
13          entity has transmitted during a predefined portion of a  
14          transmitting window.

1           26. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
2           entity sends said polling request when said transmitting peer  
            entity has transmitted during a predefined period of time.

4           27. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
5           entity defers sending said polling request for a predefined  
6           period of time.

7           28. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
8           entity adjusts a transmission window parameter responsive to  
9           receiving said status report.

10          29. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
11          entity retransmits at least one PDU responsive to receiving said  
12          status report.



1           30. The system of Claim 20, wherein said transmitting peer  
2           entity retransmits at least one PDU responsive to receiving said  
3           status report, if said status report is plausible.

4           31. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
5           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
6           entity if an estimated PDU counter is not counting, said  
7           receiving peer entity not sending said status report to said  
8           transmitting peer entity if said estimated PDU counter is  
          counting.

9  
10           32. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
11           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
12           entity if said receiving peer entity detects at least one  
13           missing or incorrectly received PDU.

1           33. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
2           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
3           entity when a predefined number of PDUs is received.

4           34. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
5           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
6           entity when a predefined number of SDUs is received.

7           35. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
8           entity transmits said status report to said transmitting peer  
9           entity when the transmitting peer entity has transmitted during  
10          a predefined portion of a transmitting window.

11          36. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
12          entity sends said status report during a predefined period of  
13          time.

1 37. The system of Claim 20, wherein said receiving peer  
2 entity defers sending said status report for a predefined period  
3 of time.

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